Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 043294 ORIGIN PM-04

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DRAFTED BY CNO/OPS-63: DROGERS:PM/SAS:RWSMITH:LD APPROVED BY PM/SAS: MR. WINSHIP L/PM - MR. BOREK ARA/RPP - MR. FINAN ACDA - MS. WATSON H - MR. GELBER

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SUBJECT: LEASE OF USN SHIPS/CRAFT TO BRAZILIAN NAVY

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B) CNO DTG 242316Z NOV 76
C) BRASILIA 9338 DTG 051930Z NOV 76 (NOTAL)

D) CHNAVSEC USMILGP RIO DE JANEIRO DTG 172352Z JUN 76

1. AS STATED REF A, USG ESTABLISHED POLICY IN NOVEMBER
1972 TO SELL THE USN SHIPS/CRAFT WHICH ARE ON LOAN OR
LEASE AND NO LONGER REQUIRED TO MEET USN MOBILIZATION NEEDS.
IT WAS PART OF THAT POLICY THAT COUNTRIES DESIRING TO
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PAGE 02 STATE 043294

RETAIN THESE SHIPS AFTER EXPIRATION OF CURRENT AGREEMENTS WOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO PURCHASE THEM AS AGREEMENTS EXPIRE, OR EARLIER IF DESIRED.

2. IN RECOGNITION OF THE BRAZILIAN NAVY FUNDING PROBLEMS REF B OFFERED TO EXTEND THE LEASE ON AFDL-39, ARB-12,ARD-14 AND YFN-903 FOR A PERIOD OF TWO YEARS TO PERMIT NECESSARY

BUDGETARY PLANNING FOR EVENTUAL PURCHASE OF THE SHIPS AND CRAFT WHEN THE LEASES EXPIRE IN 1979. THE LEASE ON AGOR-6 WILL BE EXTENDED IN JUL 79, BARRING UNFORESEEN USN REQUIREMENTS

- 3. THE SALE PRICE OF THE SHIPS REPRESENTS THE ESTIMATED MARKET APPRAISAL VALUE (IN EFFECT, THE SCRAP VALUE) WHICH WILL LIKELY CONTINUE TO INCREASE CONSISTENT WITH THE INFLATIONARY RATE ON THE SCRAP METAL MARKET. BECAUSE OF THE CHANGE TO THE LAW (BYRD AMENDMENT) IN OCT 1976, WHICH INCREASED THE TONNAGE FIGURE FROM 2000 TO 3000 TONS, SALE OF ARB-12 AND YFN-903 WILL REQUIRE ONLY 30 DAY NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS; THE OTHERS WILL REQUIRE ENABLING LEGISLATION.
- 4. EITHER SALE OR EXTENSION OF LEASES WILL REQUIRE NOTIFICATION TO THE CONGRESS AND COULD GENERATE AN ADVERSE REACTION FROM SOME MEMBERS. SUCH OPPOSITION WILL HAVE TO BE ADDRESSED AT THE TIME.
- 5. FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND CLARIFICATION CONCERNING PARA 4 REF C, UNDER THE TERMS OF THE LEASE AGREEMENT, THE LESSEE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE RETURN OF THE SHIP TO PLACE DESIGNATED BY THE USN. NORMALLY, HOWEVER, THE USN/USG HAS DISPOSED OF THE SHIPS/CRAFT IN COUNTRY THROUGH SCRAP SALE BY THE DEFENSE PROPERTY DISPOSAL OFFICE.
- $6.\;$ REF D STATES THAT THE BRAZILIANS WERE INFORMED OF THE AVAILABILITY OF THE SHIPS (EXCEPT FOR AGOR-6) FOR PURCHASE. CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 STATE 043294

EMBASSY SHOULD EXPLAIN ONCE AGAIN TO THE BRAZILIANS THE USG POLICY TO SELL AND POINT OUT THAT THE OFFER OF A TWO YEAR EXTENSION IS MADE AS AN EXCEPTION TO POLICY IN RECOGNITION OF THE BRAZILIAN BUDGETING PROBLEM. VANCE

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